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## THE MESSAGE

THURSDAY, NOV. 30, 1899.

This is Thanksgiving Day. The Lord has been good. Be thankful.

Married, at the Christian church in Mexico last Wednesday night week, by Eld. S. D. Dutcher, Mr. James Carroll to Miss Verdie O'Neal, both of Mexico.

Middletown Chips: John Beal's Mexico MESSAGE made its appearance last week, and is a clever and clean paper. Chips hopes it may succeed, and sees no reason why it shouldn't.

While driving to his home near Warrensburg, Mo., in a storm last Wednesday night week, Jesse Billingsly, aged 62, became frightened at the aspect of the clouds and dropped dead from heart affection.

There was a fresh outbreak of smallpox among the colored folks at Paris last week. The blacks should be compelled to scrub their hides, clean up their premises and made to stay at home for a season.

A little Elsberry girl has three pets—a pug puppy, a Maltese kitten and a six-month-old duck—which gets along famously with one another and which sleep together every night on the same pallet, "as snug as a bug in a rug."

Elijah Gallaway died at his home in Vandalia last Wednesday week of heart trouble. Deceased was 72 years of age and was the oldest business man in the city, having been a resident of the place 30 years. He leaves wife and two sons and two daughters.

William Dowdy, aged 12, son of the Rev. N. D. Dowdy, of Sedalia, was accidentally killed one day last week by Allen Thurman, a playmate about his own age. The boys were at play and Thurman threw a piece of wood, which struck Dowdy's head at the base of the brain.

Down at New London, over in Ralls county a woman who couldn't afford a new five dollar hat went to the millinery store, saw the latest styles, went home and pounded her old hat for half an hour with the rolling pin, stuck a turkey feather thru the band, went to church the next Sunday the envy of all the women in town.

A Marion county farmer went in debt to purchase a 125 acre farm. He staid strictly at his business ten years, and at the end he was out of debt, and among other improvements he made, built a \$1000 barn. He also made a trip to Europe. He cultivated all of the land except a small portion that he used as a pasture. He attributes his success to the fact that he utilized all he possessed without trying to over do the thing.

Corn is selling at \$1.60 per barrel in parts of Monroe county.

Blackleg is among the cattle of J. D. Power and Charlie Heizer, near Santa Fe.

J. H. Star, near Centralia, has bought near 2,000 barrels of corn at \$1.50 per barrel.

W. L. Crawford, of Young's Creek, will embark in the hardware business at Paris.

The C. & A. railroad management announces that it has cleared a dividend of 7 per cent during the past year.

The old "singin' skewl" meetings in the country have about had their day. The song book in the day schools is the explanation.

Maj. John A. Logan, who was killed recently in battle in the Philippines, was related to Mrs. C. H. Warnock who lives near Tulip, this county.

The old fashion debating society is the entertainment one night in the week in many localities over the country. To those who take part it is always a good school.

J. C. Wilkins, assignee for M. Blum & Co., has brought suit in the Audrain Circuit Court against Hargadine, McKittich Dry Goods Co. and George Robertson for an alleged over-payment.

The Supreme Court of Nebraska is asked to oust the Standard Oil Company from doing business in that state on the ground that it is a trust, and engaged in a conspiracy against trade and business.

Yes, the Democratic masses of this State would not endure for a day such a man as D. R. Francis at the head of the State Committee. We want a man in that place who is sound on all the issues and thoroughly "16 to 1."

Mr. Greenville Tomlinson and Miss Lillian Ragsdale, both of this city, were married last Thursday night, at 8 o'clock, in Mexico, Rev. A. A. Wallace officiating. Mr. Tomlinson is the clever foreman of the cigar manufactory of C. D. Stickley.

C. A. Shotwell against John Bethel and George Boudurant, appealed from Justice Jenkin's court at Farber, will be tried in Mexico at the January term of Circuit Court. Plaintiff gets a verdict for \$25 in Justice court, and defendant appealed.

The Wellsville Optic-News thinks that the Mexico officials "went off half-cocked" in quarantining against Wellsville, Montgomery City or Martinsburg. Don't know, Bro. Mansfield, suppose the tables turn with you as it has at Paris? What will you think then?

Dissolution and change continue among the business firms at Ladonia. Lately M. L. Eastham, barber, bought the interest of Ole Slavens, a barber in the town, and just a few days ago Ed Ferris bought the interest of his partner Cort Ingram, in the restaurant business in that city.

Robert T. Freeman, 8 miles south of Mexico, aged 63 years, died last Thursday morning. For a number of years Mr. Freeman had been afflicted with cancer of the face, from which malady he died. He leaves two children, W. B. Freeman and Mrs. Mattie Lee Crockett. The wife preceded the husband to the grave only about six months since. Mr. Freeman had a wide acquaintance in Audrain Co., and before his failing health was an extensive breeder, buyer and feeder of stock. His death is a loss to the community in which he lived.

## Pa's Day on the Farm.

Georgie, in Chicago Times-Herald.

Me and the pup and maw an paw and little albert went out in the Country a Saturday to visit Uncle Henry's.

Uncle Henry is maw's brother and wunst him and her was little boys and gurls like me and albert and Uncle Henry Sed maw yoost to run around in Her Bair feet and clime trees and fall out of the Hay in the Barn and skin the Cat jist like a boy.

I'm awful sorry I Herd that about maw Becos I Can't hardly keep on thinkin' She's a nangul any more.

I wistht She would a Bin a nice little gurl with dimpls in her cheeks and Curis Down her back and all ways kept Her Dres Clean and Didn't never make snoots at people. Sumtims when I think about it I almost Haft to weep.

Before we went paw He was tellin' us all about the great things he ast to Do when He lived on a Farm. It's a wonder people didn't come from miles around to See paw.

So when we Got out paw He told he would Sho us how to milk a cow and Uncle Henry give him a pale and a Stool with only one Laig what paw had to Ballance himself on.

They was a nice Sad looken cow what was all Black with a White Stripe around Whair Wimmen Ware their corsit and Uncle Henry Told Paw she was as Gentle as a lam, so paw took off his cote and cuffs and let maw Hold them and pulled up his Sleeves and Set Down on the Stool with one laig and Held the pale Between His nees and Grabbed hold with Both Hands.

The first stream shot out where paw wasent Looking for it and went all over His Best Pants and maw she Began to jaw and Told him He couldn't afford to Go and rooin his close jist to show off.

"Oh, Don't make a Fuss about nothin'," paw says. "That won't hurt. You can take it out with a gaslean. You couldn't expect a person who was all out of practus to Set rite Down and do this as Good as if he was Keepin at it Every Day. But I'll Be all rite in a minute ar two."

About that time the cow wanted to nock a fly off her Side, so she switched around and got her tale mixed up with paw's mustash and paw he had to spit as hard as he could for quite a while and he forgot to milk.

Then He Began again and His hand Slipt and the Stream Hit maw jist below the Ear and run Down inside her collar. Maw she yelled and Dropt paw's cuffs, and the pupp that it was the Cow's foot so he made a Grab at her heels and the Cow stept on paw's foot and the stool with one laig went over Backwards and the milk what paw hapened to Git in the pale run under his Vest when He was layin there with his feet in the air and a look on his fais what made me think of the Dying gladyater in the pickture.

"Oh, paw," maw hollered, "why was you sich a fool as to try it?" "Git away from me," paw sed when maw wanted to help Him to Git up. "If it hadent of been for you this wouldn't of Happened. If you would of stayed in the House Whare wemmen Belong they wouldn't of Been no Trouble."

By that time he was on His feet So the pup was looking up in his fais and wagin his tale kind of pleasant and paw Hauled off and gave a Kick at him. But the pup wasent there when paw's foot reached the place and the straw he was standing on was purty slippery.

I don't no whether the Damidge to paw's pants or His Shoulder Blads was the most turrible.

Ennyway he was a noffal lookin site when we got Him to the house and maw had to almost weep every time she looked at his pants. He only wore them Wunst Before. So he had to go to bed while maw was trying to git the milk off, and sow them so the laigs would stay together. I poked my Hed in the room where he was layin reedin the Bible to pass away the Time and says:

"Paw."

"What?" he ast.

"I Bet I no how you could get richer than if you Discovered a Gold mine."

"How," sed he.

"By buildin a fence around Yourself and Chargin folks to Git in Every time you try to do enny-thing."

I could tell by what He sed that it was lucky that paw couldn't come Outside.



## How to Pack Apples.

Country shippers and packers of apples should make it a point to pack their fruit honestly; that is, have the fruit run alike all through the barrel.

Do not endeavor to cause deception by placing green, sound, large fruit on the top and bottom of the barrel, and fill in the middle with a lot of gnarly, wormy and decayed fruit. It does not pay. The deception is easily detected upon investigation, and merchants do not care to have fraud practiced upon them, neither do they care to practice it upon their customers. Full regulation sized barrels should be used. Take the barrel, one head out, nail the hoops and break off the ends of the staves at the inside; place a layer or tier of apples, good and uniform size, smooth, bright, healthy, as closely as possible, stems downward, on the lower end, then fill up a basket full at a time.

Throwing out small, wormy, gnarly and windfall apples, and shipping the barrel well after each deposit until it is full two inches above the rim; place the head squarely on the apples; and with a screw or lever press, force it into place and nail securely. Turn over the barrel and mark name of apple with red or black lead, or stencil. Bear in mind that, to be shipped safely, fruit must be packed tight, to prevent rattling or bruising. In shipping apples the first of the season—early varieties—shippers should see that openings are cut on the side of the barrels and also in both ends, to admit of free circulation of air, which will greatly help to bring apples through in good condition during warm weather.

## Feed for Hiss.

Horse breeders cannot make a worse mistake with their foals than to shut them away from the dams before they can eat crushed oats and bran. Size must be obtained in these days, and if a youngster is allowed to lose time during the first winter of its existence, no amount of forcing will make up for it afterwards. It is not necessary or even desirable to confine them in a small yard, and stuff them with cooked foods of various sorts in order to cover their ribs with a lot of fatty fat. Plenty of room, with sound, natural food, is the best way to produce horses with good constitutions.

The above paragraph, taken from the London (Eng.) Live Stock Journal, teaches the soundest kind of doctrine. It has often been pointed out in these columns that "calf flesh" if once lost can never be regained, and this applies with equal force in the growing of colts. The "hothouse" system of forcing is rightly denounced, for it begets a host of evils for the days of maturity however much it may tend to beautify young stock. Natural methods and natural food are the secret of success. The former provides abundance of outdoor exercise, with its fresh air and sunlight adjuncts, which go so far in the production of healthy constitutions; the latter means good, heavy oats, bran, carrots and sweet, well-made fodders, rather than condimental foods and forcing stuffs. Commence feeding the sucking foals on crushed oats, bran, etc., and they will stand weaning without loss of flesh and progress upon good rations until they mature into large, sound, profitable horses.

Remedy for Gapes.—I have seen and tried a great many remedies for gapes in chickens, and all to no effect. I will give one I tried this year (my own). It was proved successful with me, and that is saying a good deal, for I have raised, or tried to raise, a great many chickens for a great many years and have always lost many with the gapes. I mix up some corn meal and best mill bran, sift a little oyster-shell in it; then cut up one or two green onions, tops and all, and mix them with the other feed. I wet this up with hot water every morning. I have not been troubled with the gapes this year, and the chickens are running over the same ground as before, and have had the same care, with the exception of the onions.—John Marriott, in Country Gentleman.

Cheese Industry in the West of England.—The dairy farmers of Cornwall are pushing on with their cheese-making in the far west. It was only last year that a few cheeses were made as a trial at the Technical Dairy School near Penzance, and this summer for the first time the industry has been commenced on business lines. The first cheeses ever exhibited in Cornwall was made in the county were shown the other day at the Royal Cornwall show, the price at which they were offered being at the rather fancy figure of 10d. per lb.—Dairy World.

Reclaiming Muck Land.—The reclamation of muck land has been the subject of study among agriculturists, as they recognize the productiveness of such soils where it is possible to bring them into a state of cultivation. As muck soil settles greatly in drying out, underdrainage by means of tiles should not be attempted, as the tiles have a tendency to rise to the surface, and consequently fail to operate. The preliminary work of drainage should be done with open ditches at frequent distances. Then when the soil has become moderately well drained the tiles should be placed.

Daily inspect the poultry house for red mites. It is better to get the start of them than to have them get the start of you.

Have the roost fixtures movable, so the droppings will not always fall in the same place. The air can then dry them out.

Mites suck the blood of the fowls and are frequently the cause of the non-production of eggs.

By proper feeding some eggs may be had the year round.

## Breeding Worms for Lazy Fishermen.

A Bangor, Me., man has gone into the business of breeding anglerworms for fishermen who have no time or are too lazy to dig their own bait.

## Adulterated Beer.

An English chemist recently examined 3,165 samples of beer, of which 421 were found to have been adulterated, and the fact was also discovered that the adulteration of beer is almost exclusively confined to London. Of 137 samples of tobacco analyzed, twenty-six were found to be adulterated.

## Last Year's Big Copper Output.

The copper production of the United States in the year 1898 was the largest ever recorded in a single year.



## Poultry Notes.

Those unreasonable hens! Here some philanthropist has been advising to allow at least one foot per hen on the perch, and the hens went even to the space when it is given them. There seems to be an unaccountable desire on the part of hens to crowd together in a bunch and to roost closely. A hen seldom takes more than eight inches of space and no amount of carpenter work can make her take more. It would be far more reasonable if the hen would only decide to occupy the middle of her allotted foot on the roost. She would not catch lice from the other fowls at least. But our experience is that we cannot get the hens over to our way of thinking. We do not say give each hen at least a foot of room on the roost, but give them all they will occupy. More is useless.

A poultry writer asserts that it has not been proved that lime, ground bone and oyster shells help at all in the formation of egg shells, public opinion to the contrary notwithstanding. He may be right, but there are some things that seem to indicate that the material thus obtained is utilized in some way to make egg shells. Hens will run eagerly after an egg shell unless they have all the one meal or ground bone they want. They will even attack whole eggs to satisfy their cravings in that direction. If none of the material goes into their system it is hard to see why they should have such cravings for the material mentioned. The cravings of fowls for some form of lime is paralleled in the animal world by the cravings of even wild animals for salt. As is well known salt licks in various parts of the country were so called from the custom of wild animals coming long distances to lick the salt that was laid out with the water. We know that salt is needed in the animal economy and it is to be presumed that forms of lime are used in the special functions of the fowl—that of laying an egg with a shell composed of lime. We are not satisfied that the fowl does not utilize this mineral matter. There are powerful acids at work in the bodies of the fowls that are doubtless able to make even mineral matter serviceable. At least we advise to keep right on feeding lime in some form.

Some of our agricultural colleges and experiment stations make the mistake of putting inexperienced men at the head of departments, believing that they are smart fellows and will soon learn enough from others to make up for lack of experience. When this is done the college or experiment station authorities should caution the young men not to talk too much, and especially not to run into print. It is almost as bad when boards of trade take up subjects they want elucidated and hire inexperienced men to do the work. A report on the Poultry Industry of Colorado, issued by the Denver Chamber of Commerce is an example of this. The man that did the work on it certainly knows nothing practically about the raising of poultry and production of eggs. He devotes a good deal of space to showing what a fortune may be made from a 300-hen outfit. It is easy. He figures it out that the hens will lay easily 144 eggs each, or 43,200 eggs. He says that half are sure to hatch and this makes 21,600 chicks, 70 per cent of which are sure to grow to maturity even when cared for only by the old hen. He thus gets 10,800 chicks to the age of 14 weeks and sells them all at 40 cents apiece, and has an income of \$4,320. All expenses he puts at \$1,500, and leaves a net profit of \$2,820, or \$9.40 cents for each of the 300 hens. But this is not all. He suggests that by planting fruit trees in the hen yards the entire cost of care and feed could be made from the fruit, leaving the entire receipts for the poultry, clear profit, or \$14.40 per hen. The writer, B. L. Winchel, then asserts that this is not a "fancy sketch."

Profitable Chickens.—James Rankin of South Easton, Mass., reports an unusually good season for spring chickens. He says, in Reliable Poultry Journal, "We hatched about 12,000 birds and got them out some six weeks earlier than any of the other growers, and we had, as it were, the control of the market during that time. We commenced shipping March 1 and marketed nearly 1,000 birds at 35c per lb., and as these birds dressed 11 lbs. per pair and represented a feed value of but 25c each, there was some profit connected with it." (That is pretty good. Each bird sold for \$1.92½ and represented a feed cost of but 25c. That left an apparent profit of \$1.67½, or \$1.635 for the first 1,000 birds. Of course, there were other expenses, but probably none that would greatly reduce the profits.—Ed. F. R.)

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## Dairy Notes.

We hear some complaints about the scarcity of white ash wood for the making of butter tubs. It is very possible that the exhaustion of the ash forests will compel something of a revolution in the butter tubs and even in the ways of packing butter. Although spruce tubs are used, care must be taken to have the wood in the best of condition. It is always best to protect the butter from the wood even when the best kind of a tub is to be had.

Some experiments have recently been conducted to test the effect of enormous pressure on the keeping quality of milk. It was found that very heavy pressure did retard the action of the bacteria, to some extent at least. But we fail to see any great advantage to be derived from the discovery if it may be called such. The application of enormous pressure is not attained without expense and the same expense applied to pasteurizing and cooling the milk or cream should accomplish more than when used to pay for pressure. Its only possible use would seem to be in hot climates where ice or ice making machines are not to be had.

Do not spoil the calf. Remember that the dairy cow begins with the calf and is easiest spoiled while young. To feed a calf on all kinds of fat-forming foods is to create in her a tendency to make beef and she will hold to that tendency. Better give her food that will develop bone and muscle rather than food that will make her blocky. We frequently see dairy papers urging dairymen to feed their calves on skim milk, first removing the fat and putting it back in the form of oil meal. But the fat should not be put back at all. The calf does not need it. As the skim milk will not continue to satisfy the calf, oats may be added with advantage, and are superior to corn for developing the frame of the calf.

The oleomargarine business in the United States is in a very thriving condition. In spite of repressive laws the output of the oleomargarine factories yearly increases, and that by leaps and jumps. This butterine is always sold at a profit by the retailers, for it is purchased as butterine and sold as butter. It is purchased as a cheap product and sold as a high-priced product. In millions of pounds the following have been the amounts manufactured each year since 1888 (inclusive): 1888, 21; 1889, 34; 1890, 35; 1891, 44; 1892, 48; 1893, 67; 1894, 69; 1895, 56; 1896, 56; 1897, 46; 1898, 57; 1899, 87. The figures are for the years ending June 30. We may expect to see the amount this year (for the year ending June 30, 1900) reach well up toward a hundred million pounds.

A contemporary tells of the patron of a creamery who said his milk to make it keep over Sunday. He was determined to have it keep and so put in a very large amount of salt. The result was that the next batch of butter from that creamery proved to be very poor, as the cream would not ripen. The butter was complained of in the market, and it took a good deal of investigating on the part of the creamery man to find out the cause of his failure. This illustrates one of the evil results of putting any kind of preservatives in the milk or cream to be used for butter making. It should be remembered that the delicate flavors are caused by minute plants that develop in the milk. This developing is only another name for ripening. The preservatives prevent the very thing that is most necessary in making good butter.

Oregon butter is being sent to Manila, where it is competing sharply with butter sent from Denmark. It is packed in glasses hermetically sealed, and the glasses are themselves packed in salt. If the butter can be sent in proper condition there is no reason why it should not have an advantage over the Danish butter. The trouble will be, however, that it will not be of as good quality as the Danish butter. There seems to be a good deal of difference in the grade of butter exported from the United States and from Denmark, due to the influence of the domestic butter market in each country. It is presumed that the best Danish butter goes abroad. In fact it has been said that a large proportion of the Danes ship out their first-class butter and eat oleomargarine in its place. At least the supply of first-class butter is so large there that there is enough to satisfy the home demand without cutting down the amount that should be shipped to England. In the United States the home market demands a large amount of first-class butter and the price that such butter will always command here is as great and sometimes greater than it will bring abroad. The result is that the best butter is kept at home except when there is a sudden drop here in the price of good butter. As this is seldom the case, the first-class butter that is sent abroad is varying constantly in amount, and is so uncertain in quality that it cannot be counted on. The poorer grades can be exported with a profit, but such grades are unable to drive Danish butter from the place it has obtained. As to shipments to Manila, the greater distance that Danish butter has to be brought may operate in favor of the American article.

## From Farmers' Review: It is a common opinion that turnips should never be preceded in a crop rotation by buckwheat. Some farmers go the length of saying that the latter has a poisonous effect upon the land as far as turnips are concerned, and also when some other crops are grown. This opinion was so general and seemed to have so little foundation that a series of tests were conducted to prove the case for or against. A piece of land that had yielded a crop of rutabagas was sown to buckwheat and another similar plot was allowed to lie fallow. When the buckwheat was slightly past the flowering stage it was cut, run through a fodder cutter and then turned under. Shortly after this, a volunteer crop of buckwheat appeared and after growing a few inches was turned under, the fallow plot being prepared for seeding to turnips at the same time. The two plots were, except in these respects, treated exactly alike. The crop of salable turnips upon the buckwheat plot was more than four times as heavy as upon the fallow plot and they weighed more individually. The marketable roots from the fallow plot were more numerous but smaller and consequently lighter. This experiment seems to indicate that the idea that buckwheat is not a good green manure for turnips is not correct.

M. G. KAINS.

## Loss of Nitrogen.

Sir J. B. Lawes of England has measured the amount of nitrogen that is washed out of soils by the fall rains, says Hoard's Dairyman. In one rainy season there were 130 pounds lost from one acre in this way, during the month of September alone. During the hot weather of July and August nitrification goes on rapidly in the soil. This means that nitrogen is changed from organic forms so that it is soluble in water. Most summer crops stop growing before frost. There being no living plants to utilize this soluble nitrogen, the rains easily wash most of it out of the soil. September and October are two of the worst months for leaving the ground bare. When covered with Crimson clover or winter grain, the loss is much less, for these growing plants will utilize most of the nitrogen. Never let the ground remain bare during the fall and early winter.

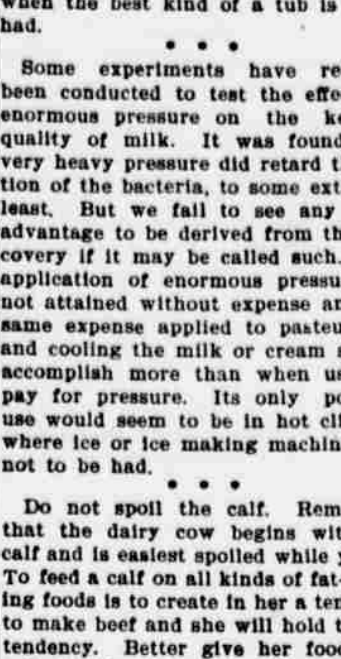
## Bi-sexual plants are those in which both sexes are present as a part of the flower, as in apples and cabbages.



## Capers Spurge.

Bulletin 86, U. S. Department Agriculture says: This plant is called also garden spurge, myrtle spurge, mole plant, mole weed, mole tre gopher plant, antigopher plant, wicaper, caper bush, wolf's milk, as springwort.

Description and Where Found.—It is a smooth, herbaceous, milky-juiced perennial, two to three feet high, with



Capers spurge (Euphorbia lathyris)

upper half of plant, one-third matured, a stiff erect stem, and opposite four-ranked leaves, the lower of which are thick and oblong, the upper, thin and frequently heart-shaped. The flowers are greenish-yellow and rather small. The three-seeded fruit is conspicuous. It is a common garden plant, sparingly introduced into wet ground in California and Texas, and in the Atlantic states from New Jersey and West Virginia and North Carolina.

Poisonous Properties.—The fresh milky juice is exceedingly acrid and the fruit is highly purgative and poisonous. When used as a household remedy it often provokes serious trouble. Women and children are so infrequently poisoned by handling the plant and getting the juice on the face. Cattle are quite resistant to its influence, but they are sometimes overcome. Goats will eat the plant extensively, but nothing better presents itself, and it is said that their milk then possesses all of the venomous properties of the plant. When applied to the skin the juice causes redness, itching, pimples and sometimes gangrene, the effect often lasting more than a week. The seed taken internally in overdose will inflame the mouth and stomach, and cause intense diarrhoea and vomiting. If the dose is sufficient there will be nervous disorders, unconsciousness, general collapse and death.

## Buckwheat as Manure for Turnips.

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